

Eastern issues were at the forefront of Scott's advocacy and he led some 25 delegations to the Middle East with increasing success over three decades of involvement. Since the mid-1970s Scott attempted to amplify the voices of Israelis and Palestinians who are committed to participating in a nonviolent struggle for lasting peace. Scott's tenacity and passion provided the foundation from which the Resource Center for Nonviolence has continued to prosper to this day. His later heavy involvement with the Washington, D.C.-based group Interfaith Peace Builders only adds to his great strides toward world peace. His lifetime of humanitarian service was honored in 2010 when he received the Pfeffer Peace Prize.

The Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989 was a jumping off point for Scott's local political career. Several affordable housing activists, afraid the disaster would result in a lack of affordable housing, recruited Scott to be their voice and run for city council. During his time in elected office, he worked to construct low-income housing, build a community soccer field, pass a resolution against the first Iraq war and permanently preserve several greenbelt properties on the city's perimeter. His intelligence and passion challenged and taught those who served alongside him to do their very best for Santa Cruz.

Throughout all of these great achievements, Scott had the stalwart support of his loving family. He is survived by his wife and soulmate, Kristin (Kris), his two sons, Peter and Benjamin and his daughter Megan, who served in this Chamber as a Congressional House Page. His entire family actively supported his work by door-to-door canvassing and later travelling to Israel and Palestine. Scott described his family, and his wife Kris in particular, as his bedrock. The support she gave him made possible his lifelong humanitarian and political success.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend our Nation's deepest condolences to Scott Kennedy's family for their loss. I would like to honor his great struggle for peace and his service to the City of Santa Cruz. He was a treasured Mayor, father, and husband and he will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING THE COLONIAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER CHOIR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Colonial High School Chamber Choir during their visit to Washington, DC. Founded in 1959, Colonial High School is located in Orlando and is committed to educating its students in a learning environment based on excellence in academic performance, enabling students to become productive and responsible citizens.

The Chamber Choir is made up of 26 audition-selected students from the 150-student Colonial High School Chorus. Their talent is most recently marked by an invitation to perform at the White House on Friday, December 9, 2011. The parents and educators of these students should be very proud of the dedication and discipline required to get to this level.

On behalf of the citizens of Florida's 8th Congressional District, I am pleased to recognize the Colonial High School Chamber Choir and congratulate the students for their hard work and accomplishment.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. BYRON LEAVANCE BENTON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rev. Byron LeaVance Benton for his pastoral and community service that has benefited the youth and religious community of Brooklyn.

Rev. Benton, a native of Greensboro, North Carolina, is a graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University where he majored in Business Education with a concentration in Administrative Systems. He earned his Master's of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, focusing his studies on homiletics and pastoral care. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy at Eastern University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At A&T, he sat on the board of several programs that reached out to troubled youth in the Greensboro area, and he served as the percussion section leader and chaplain of the A&T University Band: The Marching Machine.

While at Princeton, Rev. Benton served as a chaplain for both the Trenton Psychiatric Hospital in Trenton, New Jersey and the Association of Black Seminars at Princeton Theological Seminary. He was awarded the Aaron E. Gast Award in Urban Ministry, the Jagow Award in Homiletics and Speech, and the Ray Lindquist Award in Pastoral Care.

Rev. Benton started a community drumline in Brooklyn, New York through the Berean Community and Family Life Center. The drumline's vision is to encourage positive, holistic health in youth by providing physical activity that combats obesity, prevents disease, and encourages an overall healthy lifestyle, while simultaneously creating self-discipline and encouraging community service. Their performances include: museums, numerous church and youth ministry events, and as accompaniment for the Jamal Jackson Dance Company. They were also featured in the 2011 Black History Calendar by Aetna Healthcare. They placed second in both the 2011 Hot 97 Battle in the Apple and Battle of the Drumlines.

Rev. Benton currently serves as the Associated Pastor of the Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York under the mentorship of the Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr. He also sits on the board of directors for the Berean Community and Family Life Center.

Rev. Benton has traveled extensively throughout the world, partnering with the National Baptist Convention in Liberia, Africa.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Rev. Byron Benton for his exceptional dedication to the youth of Brooklyn and his years of pastoral service.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chair, I rise today to oppose H.R. 10, the Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act.

This bill is another instance of the Republican Majority playing politics, rather than focusing on passing legislation that creates jobs, grows our economy, and protects the American people. Requiring that Congress approve all agency rules and regulations with an annual economic cost of \$100 million or more would not only handicap our government's ability to regulate health and safety laws, it would also distract Congress from addressing pressing issues like job creation, national security and reducing our deficit. After an entire year in which the Republican Majority has demonstrated an inability to take up a productive legislative schedule—forcing last-minute votes on critical issues and not even introducing any kind of serious jobs agenda—it seems ludicrous to suggest that Congress should be spending its time nitpicking federal agencies about enacting regulations that Congress has authorized or ordered to be done.

Additionally, this bill would actually harm job creation and hurt businesses. By creating a scenario in which regulations are proposed, and then potentially overridden, and then potentially proposed yet again in a new form, businesses will be forced to spend significant time and resources just keeping track of all the changes—decreasing their productivity and bottom line. This will create uncertainty for businesses and harm job creation—the very thing that the Republican Majority asserts that this bill will prevent. This is nothing more than blatant political posturing, as evidenced by the fact that Congress already has the authority to review and override federal rules under the Congressional Review Act.

The fact is that federal agencies need to be able to issue rules in a timely and efficient manner to protect the health and welfare of the American people and help grow our economy. Industries and individuals in areas from finance to farming rely on rulemaking and regulations to facilitate their businesses, and this bill would undermine that. I urge a no vote.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD J. LEONARDINI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Captain Richard J. Leonardini, who

is retiring after more than 31 years of law enforcement service, with 22 years of that service to the City of Fairfield. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate the next chapter of his life, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding public servant and defender of peace and safety.

Richard started his law enforcement career as a Deputy Sheriff, serving three years for the El Dorado County Sheriff's office and over five years with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's office. On March 6, 1989, he was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department. As an officer, Richard worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Street Crime Apprehension (SCAT) and Field Training. He joined the Crisis Negotiations Team in 1991, the Special Activity Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Team in 1992 and was promoted to Police Sergeant on July 30, 1999.

As a Police Sergeant, Richard served in Patrol and then Personnel and Training before being promoted to Police Lieutenant on December 14, 2001 and serving as the Commander of the Special Operations Division. He was a thoughtful and capable manager which led him to receiving the Manager of the Year award in 2002. On March 19, 2004 he was promoted to Police Captain and served in Administration, Support Services, and Field Operations.

Richard has been a valued employee and his commitment to the community was evidenced on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to pay tribute to this dedicated public servant. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Richard J. Leonardini continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING THE NATIVE AMERICAN CODE TALKERS

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Native American Code Talkers for their selfless contributions to America's defense during World Wars I and II. During these times of worldwide turmoil, hundreds of American Indians joined the United States' Armed Forces with the goal of protecting freedom and human rights around the world.

The Code Talkers, as these brave soldiers became known, used their ancient tribal languages to develop a military communications code that no enemy was ever able to crack. American Indians served bravely in both World Wars, though the most well-known code group, the Navajo Code Talkers, was not formed by the Marine Corps until the 1940s.

The Navajo Code Talkers came up with a code that enabled them to send and receive messages that were unintelligible to eavesdroppers. The Navajo language had no alphabet, and only an extraordinarily few individuals outside of the Navajo community were fluent in it, making it the ideal foundation for updating the U.S. military's slow-to-decipher and

easily broken codes. Over 400 Navajo Code talkers served bravely in World War II, and their code was considered so secretive that they were prohibited from writing it down. It was not until the declassification of the code in 1968 that Americans were truly able to appreciate the contributions of the Code Talkers.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that as we remember the brave Americans whose lives were lost at Pearl Harbor 70 years ago this week, we also honor all of America's veterans who have committed their time and risked their lives to protect our nation. It is with great honor and respect that I offer my appreciation to the Code Talkers for exemplifying the spirit and commitment of public service and duty to country. Indeed, both their code and their commitment to America remain unbreakable, and to this day we remain in awe of their achievements.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express strong opposition to legislation this chamber passed yesterday, H.R. 10, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act of 2011.

The REINS Act requires that both chambers of Congress pass a resolution approving every regulation with an economic impact of \$100 million or more. If Congress fails to pass such a resolution, that regulation would not take effect, and the law would go unimplemented.

I oppose this legislation, which would hurt the health, safety, and well-being of my constituents and Hawaii's communities. We cannot let our constituents and communities down when it comes to these vital responsibilities.

For example, this bill would stop the rules that are being written now to implement the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act—which will rein in reckless behavior in financial markets. Important rules to implement the health care law—which is already lowering drug costs for seniors—would also be stopped. And rules relating to the recent food safety legislation and protecting clean air and water would be stopped.

These rules—and the laws they are implementing—were and are opposed by various powerful corporate special interests. Those special interests know they don't have the votes to repeal these laws—and they know the American people don't want them repealed.

So instead, corporate special interests and their allies claim that the costs of these types of rules are too big to be worth it.

They're wrong.

Even the Bush Administration recognized that the benefits of rules like these outweigh

their costs. In fact, in 2008, the Office of Management and Budget—which must sign off on all major rules developed by federal agencies—estimated that costs to the economy for major rules it approved were between \$46 billion and \$54 billion. These costs were far outweighed by the benefits of those same regulations, which they estimated to be between \$122 billion and \$656 billion. Imagine if the rules that are being written to implement Wall Street Reform had been on the books in 2005, before the financial crisis came to a head?

I believe our country could have reined in rampant, out of control behavior of Wall Street, and such regulations could have saved our economy trillions of dollars in lost economic growth and hard-earned retirement and college savings. Millions of people who have lost jobs could still be working. And this body could be focused on matters like improving U.S. education, economic competitiveness, and reducing our deficit.

Not only would this bill halt our regulatory system in its tracks, but it is also unnecessary. The Congressional Review Act already gives Congress the ability to review and disapprove of regulations if they are contrary to Congressional intent. This system ensures that the laws enacted by Congress are implemented appropriately, while preventing the law and its implementation from being hijacked by special interests on a whim—and creating disruptive uncertainty for our economy and legal system.

Mr. Speaker, people in Hawaii are tired of these politically motivated bills. They want the federal government to get to work helping to create jobs, protecting health and safety, and to do so responsibly.

The REINS Act also fails miserably on that front. This legislation would require federal agencies to conduct the rigorous analysis required to develop a rule—a process that can take several years—only to have that rule stopped by Congress. This is a waste of federal resources and irresponsible at a time when Congress needs to focus on creating jobs and reducing our deficit.

These are just some of the concerns I have with the REINS Act, and some of the reasons that I voted against this unnecessary and ill conceived legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPITOL CORRIDOR

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Capitol Corridor train service, which connects the Sacramento Region to the San Francisco Bay Area. It is a great pleasure to recognize the corridor's stellar track record of providing cost-effective, public transportation that stimulates economic development, reduces emissions, and promotes partnerships among passengers, private investors, and the communities. As the Capitol Corridors' supporters and partners gather to celebrate this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the essential role that the Capitol Corridor plays in Northern California.

Since its inception on December 12, 1991, with a mere six trains between Sacramento